

## Secretary of Defense Austin's Visit to Bahrain

Tavlarides, Mark <mtavlarides@bgrdc.com>

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To: Tavlarides, Mark <mtavlarides@bgrdc.com>

Bcc:

Good morning,

BGR Group represents the Kingdom of Bahrain's Embassy to the United States of America. Earlier today, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin traveled to Bahrain to [meet with](#) King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and with Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to thank them for Bahrain's "exceptional support in facilitating the safe transit of evacuees from Afghanistan." Secretary Austin emphasized the strength of the U.S.-Bahrain relationship, including Bahrain's hosting of the Navy's 5th Fleet, and discussed deepening the defense partnership.

Secretary Austin then met with the Commander in Chief of the Bahrain Defense Force (BDF), Field Marshall Khalifa bin Ahmad Al Khalifa, to express gratitude for Bahrain's support for Operation ALLIES REFUGE and to express his commitment to advancing the U.S.-Bahrain partnership. Secretary Austin [tweeted](#), "Bahrain has provided great care and comfort for Americans, Afghans, and many others in a time of need."

**We would appreciate a public statement from your office in support of the U.S.-Bahrain partnership.**

Please let me know if you have questions, or if you would like to speak further with the Embassy of Bahrain about their support for U.S. operations in Afghanistan and throughout the region.

Thanks,  
Mark

Mark J. Tavlarides  
*Principal, International*  
BGR Government Affairs, LLC

**BGR | GROUP**

WASHINGTON - AUSTIN - BEIJING - LONDON

The Homer Building

11<sup>th</sup> Floor South

601 13<sup>th</sup> Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

Direct: 202.661.6375

[mtavlarides@bgrdc.com](mailto:mtavlarides@bgrdc.com)

[www.bgrdc.com](http://www.bgrdc.com)

[Check us out on LinkedIn](#)

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